

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1– 23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A system for providing service attribute information

comprising:

a directory server comprising a hierarchical data store associating a plurality of target entries with service attributes, said hierarchical data store comprising an organization level and a managed role level and further comprising attribute templates defined with respect to services and levels;

an application configured to designate a predefined service attribute in response to a

query for ~~[[a]]~~ said predefined service attribute associated with one of said plurality of target entries, ~~an application for designating said predefined service attribute;~~ and

wherein said directory server, in response to ~~said designating~~ said predefined service attribute, ~~searching is configured to search~~ said hierarchical data store for target entries that comprise said predefined service attribute.

25. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 24 wherein said predefined service attribute is associated with a role comprising one or more service attribute.

26. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 25 wherein said predefined service attribute is associated with said managed role associated with an organization of said organization level.
27. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 24 wherein said attribute templates comprise:
- a first template defined with respect to a first service and a first managed role; and
  - a second template defined with respect to said first service and a second managed role.
28. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 24 wherein said attribute templates further comprise a third template defined with respect to a second service and said first managed role.
29. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 24 wherein said predefined attribute is nsRoleDN.
30. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in Claim 24 wherein said directory server assigns said distinguished name of said managed role to said predefined service attribute if said one of said plurality of target entries belongs to said managed role.

31. (Previously Presented) A method for searching a tree structured hierarchical directory server, said directory server comprising a plurality of entries comprising at least one role, said role for grouping said plurality of entries comprising:
- accessing a first role associated with one or more of said plurality of entries wherein said first role comprises a first identifiable attribute and a first distinguished name;
  - accessing a second role associated with one or more of said plurality of entries wherein said second role comprises a second identifiable attribute and a second distinguished name;
  - determining if one or more of said plurality of entries comprises said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute; and
  - creating a third role comprising said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute.
32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31 further comprising:
- creating a nested role by encapsulating said first distinguished name and said second distinguished name wherein said nested role comprises said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute and can be associated with one or more of said plurality of entries.
33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 32 further comprising:
- encapsulating said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute into a third distinguished name.
34. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 33 wherein said third distinguished name is nsRoleDN.

35. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31 wherein said first role is a dynamic role and wherein said first identifiable attribute is computed at the time of accessing said first role.

36. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31 wherein said first role is an enumerated role.

37. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31 wherein said first role is a filtered role.

38. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 31 wherein said first role is a nested role.

39. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium comprising instructions, that when executed, perform a method for searching a tree structured hierarchical directory server, said directory server comprising a plurality of entries comprising at least one role, said role for grouping said plurality of entries, said method comprising:

accessing a first role associated with one or more of said plurality of entries wherein said first role comprises a first identifiable attribute and a first distinguished name;

accessing a second role associated with one or more of said plurality of entries wherein said second role comprises a second identifiable attribute and a second distinguished name; and

determining if one or more of said plurality of entries comprises said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute.

40. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 39

further comprising instructions for:

creating a nested role by encapsulating said first distinguished name and said second distinguished name wherein said nested role comprises said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute and can be associated with one or more of said plurality of entries.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 40 further comprising instructions for:

encapsulating said first identifiable attribute and said second identifiable attribute into a third distinguished name.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 41

wherein said third distinguished name is nsRoleDN.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 39

wherein said first role is a dynamic role and wherein said first identifiable attribute is computed at the time of accessing said first role.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 39

wherein said first role is an enumerated role.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 39

wherein said first role is a filtered role.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium as recited in Claim 39

wherein said first role is a nested role.